



Ecuador

In 2012-2013, 3,438 U.S. students studied abroad in Ecuador for academic credit.

[**<<Learn more about Ecuador>>**](#)

Education System Overview:

- **Academic year:**
 - Andean Region: September – July
 - Coastal Region: May – January
 - **Major school holidays/break:**
 - Andean Region: July – August
 - Coastal Region: February – April
 - Carnival (Mardi Gras): February 6, 2015
 - Semana Santa (Holy Week): Last week of March
 - Independence Day: August 10 and May 24
 - Guayaquil's Independence Day: October 9
 - Quito's Independence Day: December 6 (It is difficult to schedule events the week prior to this date due to the festivities)
 - Dia de los Difuntos: November 2
 - Christmas and New Year's. (Please bear in mind the EducationUSA center in Quito is closed the week between Christmas and New Year's)
 - Dia del Trabajo (Labor Day): May 1
- Major exam period:
- Andean Region: May – June
 - Coastal Region: December – January

Structure of the university system:

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 4 – 6 years
- **The language of instruction in universities:** Spanish

Resources:

Organization: Secretaria Nacional de Educación Superior, Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Website: www.educacionsuperior.gob.ec



Organization: Ministerio de Educación
Website: www.educacion.gov.ec

Organization: IECE - Instituto Ecuatoriano de Credito Educativo y Becas
Website: www.iece.fin.ec

Know Before You Go

- [How to Apply for U.S. Passport](#)
- [Security Messages for U.S. Citizens](#)
- [Country Specific Travel Information](#)

U.S. Government-Sponsored Study and Exchange Programs

- [Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program](#)
- [Fulbright U.S. Student Program](#)
- [Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program](#)
- [Gilman International Scholarship](#)